

AGRICULTURAL.

THE COTTON CROP.

The Latest Reliable Estimates From the Cotton States.

In May last the committee of the New Orleans cotton exchange sent out letters to reliable persons in all the cotton states requesting information regarding the condition of the cotton crop. They now publish, in condensed form, the results of their action derived from letters dating from May 22, to June 7. Their report may be accepted as the safest guide to a proper understanding of the aspects of the crop. Thirty-six counties were heard from in Mississippi, and the letters received show an increase in the general average of cotton in the state of eight per cent. Fertilizers have been used to only a limited extent, and labor is efficient. There have been heavy rains and a cold spring, which will retard the crop about fifteen days. The crop is generally represented as good. In Louisiana, thirty-five parishes having been heard from, the crop is two weeks late. General average increase in the acreage over last year of 2 1/2 per cent. Very little fertilizers used. Both favorable and unfavorable weather reports were received, and the stands of cotton are represented as a full average, although many complaints of the grass were sent. Forty counties of Texas responded to the inquiries of the committee. The average of the increase in the acreage is placed at fully 25 per cent. An increase in the number and efficiency of labor is reported. The crop, which is represented as in a fair condition, although heavy rains and a cold spring have seriously retarded it, are about twenty-five days late. Many complaints of grass come from this state. No fertilizers have been used. Intelligence from thirty-five counties of Arkansas shows an average stand of cotton has been obtained. Labor more plentiful. Owing to rain and a late spring the crop will be fifteen days later than last year. Of the fifty-three reports, twenty-six complain of grass and weeds. The average increase of acreage is about 10 per cent. Unfavorable weather reported from all quarters, and two-thirds of the report represent a good condition of the crop, while the other third represent it as bad. Labor good, and better than last year. The presence of grass is much complained of, and only an average stand of cotton has been obtained. Fertilizers are very little used in Tennessee. The reports from Alabama come from thirty-three counties. Average increase in acreage, 7 per cent. From nineteen counties the news is that the stands are good, while twelve counties report adversely. The crop is fifteen days later, and its condition is only an average one. Excessive rains are reported. Labor is said to be sufficient, and the use of fertilizer has largely increased. The average increase in acreage of the fifty-five North Carolina counties heard from is fully twenty-five per cent, over the average of last year. Labor not plentiful in this state as last year, and the use of fertilizers has largely increased. Cold and wet weather has produced an unfavorable condition of the crop, which is from fifteen to twenty days later. Twenty-two counties in South Carolina have been heard from, and an increase of 10 per cent. in the acreage is reported. An average stand only of cotton has been obtained, and the condition of the crop, owing to the excessive rains, is very bad. The crop is three weeks late. The planters of this state are much discouraged. Seventy-nine counties in Georgia report, showing an increase in the acreage of 30 per cent. Labor is satisfactory and the use of fertilizers has increased largely. The weather has been rather more favorable than last year, and, except in four counties, the stand is reported as good, some letters say very fine. The condition of the crop is represented as good, and the average for the state is about fifteen days later than last year. Memoirs reports from Florida give a good account of the weather, of labor, and of the stands and condition of the crop. An increase is reported in the area of 2 1/2 per cent.

Shallow vs. Deep Plowing.

"Rural" of the Chicago Tribune, Mr. L. Dunlap, has at last length become a convert to shallow plowing, or as much of a convert as a cautious conservative may be, to a new and startling departure out of the line of ancient routine and method. He confesses that the experiences of the last few years have shown that an upturning of the soil is of little or no value, if it is not a positive injury. Harrowing answers a better purpose than plowing, and if plowing is necessary, it is a mechanical necessity, having for its end the destruction of weeds rather than the growth and development of the plant. I suspect the mechanical genius and force of the country is far in advance of the agricultural, and that our machine makers have forced upon us a thousand tools of doubtful use and value. I suspect we plow deep quite as much because our plows that plow deep do the best work, in a mechanical point of view, as because deep plowing is necessary to successful agriculture. The fertile and inventive minds of the country seem, in many instances, to have created tools, and then invented the scientific reason for their use.

A NEW YORK physician recommends dancing for old people, who, he says, require it more than the young. He would have them eschew the courtly minute for jigs and hornpipes, and, under his direction, a dancing-class has already been formed, the junior member of which is a frisky dame of 65, while the senior is an elastic old bachelor who has just turned the corner of his 80th year.

USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

A GRINDSTONE should not be exposed to the weather, as it not only injures the woodwork, but the sun's rays harden the stone so much as, in time, to render it useless. Neither should it stand in the water in which it runs, as the part remaining in the water softens so much that it wears unequally.

CLEANING TINWARE.—Acids should never be employed to clean tinware, because they attack the metal and remove it from the iron, of which it forms a thin coat. Rub the articles first with rotten-stone and sweet-oil, then finish with whitening and a piece of soft leather. Nothing else will give so good a polish.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Prairie Farmer writes that ticks may be kept from sheep, and even driven from them, by putting sulphur in their salt once a month. He keeps lice from his cattle, horses and hogs by the same means. If lice troubled hogs, he puts sulphur in their food. If chickens are troubled with them, he puts sulphur in their food and sprinkles it in their nests.

TARTARIC PUDDING WITHOUT EGGS.—Soak four large spoonfuls of tapioca in about one quart of water for an hour or two; about one hour before dinner place it on the stove, and let it cook until nearly transparent, adding water if too thick, sweeten to taste and add a little nutmeg; then have two or three good juicy apples peeled and quartered in a pudding dish, pour the tapioca over them. Set in the oven, and as soon as the apples are baked the pudding is done. To be eaten with sugar and cream.

TO CANDY LEMON PEEL.—Clear the lemon peelings from the pulp, let them lie two days in salt and water, scald and drain them dry, then boil them in a thin syrup till they look quite clear. Take them out, and have ready a clear syrup made with fine loaf sugar, put them in it and simmer till the sugar candies about the pan and the peeling. Lay them separately on a hair sieve, to drain; strew sifted sugar over them and dry in a slow oven. Orange peel should be soaked in several waters till all bitterness is gone, and then candied in the manner above set forth.

COMPOSTED CAKE.—One and three-quarter pounds of flour, one and one-quarter of sugar, three quarters of a pound of butter, four eggs, one pint of good milk or half a pint of cream, one pound of fruit, half a nutmeg, one-half teaspoonful of cinnamon. Sift thoroughly with the flour one teaspoonful of soda and double that quantity of cream tartar; rub the butter and sugar together, break in the eggs and work them in well; then add the flour a little at a time, till it is well stirred in; then the spices, then the fruit, having previously floured and dried it. Stir fifteen minutes, pour in pans and bake immediately.

THE MODEL HOG.—In a recent discussion before the Farmers' Club of St. Louis, Professor C. W. Murtfield said: Since the attention of farmers has been given to developing the hog, animals eleven months old that weigh 300 or 325 pounds are often seen. It used to be considered a good hog that reached 300 pounds in his eighteenth month. This is the most desirable hog for packers, and the "Berkshire" fills the bill nearer than any other breed. The "Poland China" is considered unprofitable, except for the matter of lard. In this latitude, and south of it, a black hog is preferable to a white one, because it can stand the heat better. If I wanted a pig to eat, drink and sleep, I should choose the "Suffolk," but the model hog is the "Berkshire."

WHY CLOVER IMPROVES THE SOIL.—Professor Voelcker thus explains the action of clover in increasing the fertility of soils: All who are practically acquainted with the subject must have seen that the best crops of wheat are produced by being preceded by crops of clover growing for seed. I have come to the conclusion that the very best preparation, the best manure, is a good crop of clover. A vast amount of mineral manure is brought within reach of the corn crop, which otherwise would remain in a locked-up condition in the soil. The clover plants take nitrogen from the atmosphere, and manufacture it in their own substance, which, on decomposition of the clover roots and leaves, produces abundance of ammonia. In reality, the growing of clover is equivalent, to great extent, to manuring with Peruvian guano, and in this paper of mine I show that you obtain a larger quantity of manure than in the largest dose of Peruvian guano which a farmer would ever think of applying. It is only by carefully investigating subjects like the one under consideration that positive proofs are given, showing the correctness of intelligent observers in the field.

OATMEAL, BONE AND MUSCLE.—Liebig has shown that oatmeal is almost as nutritious as the very best English beef, and that it is richer than wheat bread in the elements that go to form bone and muscle. Professor Forbes of Edinburgh, during some twenty years, measured the breadth and height, and also tested the strength of both the arms and loins of the students in the university, a very numerous class, and of various nationalities, drawn to Edinburgh by the fame of his teaching. He found that in height, breadth of chest and shoulders, and strength of arms and loins, the Belgians were at the bottom of the list; a little above them the French, and highest of all the Scotch and Scotch-Irish, from Ulster, who, like the natives of Scotland, are fed in early years with at least one meal a day of good milk and good oatmeal porridge. Speaking of oatmeal, an exchange remarks that a very good drink is made by putting about two spoonfuls of the meal into a tumbler of water. The western hunters and trappers

consider it the best of drinks, as it is at once nourishing, stimulating and satisfying. It is popular in the Brooklyn navy-yard, two and a half pounds of oatmeal being put into a pail of moderately cool water. It is much better than any of the ordinary mixtures of vinegar and molasses with water, which farmers use in the haying or harvest field.

The Holy Land of To-day.

(From the New York World.)

A meeting in behalf of the Palestine Exploration Society was held last week in the Central Methodist church, Seventh avenue, near Fourteenth street. Rev. Professor Hitchcock was the first speaker. He said that explorers were every week identifying new spots near the Jordan. Rev. Dr. Robinson did not make very wide exploration. Countless ruins exist, the exploration of which will produce great results in the interest of the Bible. In 1865 the English began to examine the west side of Jordan. They invited the co-operation of Americans. The result was, the English concluded to leave to the American society the east side of Jordan while they took the west side. The English have surveyed 1,250 square miles. The Americans will use the same scales, so that a uniform map may be made. The English are spending \$25,000 a year, the American society will keep within \$20,000. The whole work will require five years. A frank appeal will be made to the Christians of this country to furnish the money for this enterprise. A number of Americans are now on the ground, and have surveyed their base-line of five miles. The expenses have been met, so far, by gentlemen of New York, who have subscribed \$500 to \$1,000 apiece. The desire is now to obtain 319 subscriptions. If the Belgians are too troublesome the enterprise will be given up. It is desired that this Bible-loving earnest Methodist church shall have the first chance to subscribe. The speaker said he would now introduce an explorer, who is the son of a missionary, and was born in Palestine.

Rev. W. H. Thompson said that the longer he stayed in Palestine the more he realized how little is known about the country. There is no site except Jerusalem that seems so easy to explore as Tyre. He had been there some forty times. Beyond it now using old Tyre as a stone-quarry. Caesarea was evidently built from the stones of an old Phoenician town. Most modern cities in that region are built in this way. An Arab once took him to see a tessellated pavement in Tyre. Near it was a hole that led to a causeway just discovered. This was evidently the causeway that was made of the ruins of most ancient Tyre, taken by Alexander; by it he connected the island on which the city stood with the main-land. It was made of a mass of old Phoenician columns. All the waters near Tyre are strewn with the ruins of some of the finest buildings ever erected. Columns of all sorts are found, and the oldest are the most massive. He thought the exploration of such waters was far more important work than the search for an open polar sea. Some peasants of Sidon lately struck upon four leaden boxes full of gold pieces. They quarreled, and the news coming to the governor, he tortured them until they disgorged the whole sum. Such treasures have often been found there, as such burials have been going on for five thousand years. He had been much struck by a castle near Tyre. Found it Sarcenic, with a Canaanite base. From the castle he and his father counted seventy-two ruins of towns and castles. In traveling through Galilee he found that Josephus was right in saying there was 1,500 towns there. These ruins stand so close that they almost touch. This land has been conquered, as far as the west of Jordan is concerned, by all great nations. But Jordan valley 1,300 feet below the sea, has acted as a barrier, and the east side is remarkably unchanged from the times of Job. An architect is found there that seems likely to last as long as the earth. Every particle of the houses, even to the ceilings, is of stone. There is a sort of lava bed there which it cost Mehmet Ali 30,000 men to capture from 2,000 Druses. In this very place was the stronghold of "Og, king of Bashan." That land has treasures of immense value, because it has been so little disturbed. There are inscriptions there which will certainly explain the original dispersion of the race from the plateaus of Asia, and also why the Egyptians had hieroglyphic while the Assyrians had a phonetic language. At the close of this speech the names of those who would pay \$10 a year for five years were taken.

THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL COTTON MILL IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—South Carolina is rejoicing over her first successful cotton factory. The mill was started early in 1872, and during the latter eight months of the year earned over 13 per cent. on the capital invested. "For the first quarter of 1873," says the superintendent, "I have made a careful estimate, and state without doubt that we shall pay the interest on money borrowed and make for the three months not less than 6 per cent. on our capital. We have labored under disadvantages for the want of a working capital. Hence, I do not recommend any dividend; but if no unforeseen misfortune overtakes us I think we can commence a quarterly dividend in July of 2 1/2 per cent., and continue at that rate we realize a commercial capital adequate for our requirements. During the year there have been erected in our village sixteen houses, of all kinds. Our inhabitants have increased, and the population is now about eight hundred. A free school has been established and the average attendance is about sixty."

AN ATLANTA doctor advises persons afraid of cholera to stand on their heads for one minute three times a day. He argues that this arrests abdominal depression, and would be a healthful gymnastic exercise at any time.

Marriages in Paris.

"The marriage customs of the working classes, singular in some respects, have not changed during the last forty years; while marriages among the upper classes have been gradually losing the domestic and private character which formerly attached to them. To-day, as forty years ago, the working man or the small tradesman goes in a great carriage, specially reserved for such occasions, to the church where the religious service is to be performed. A visitor to any of the large livery stables of Paris would not fail to be struck by one remarkable peculiarity. In some corner of the vast yard will be observed a number of carriages, evidently intended for holiday occasions, emblazoned with shields and coat-of-arms of all kinds, from the arms of particular towns to those of the crown itself, and whose faded splendor seems like a strange reflection on French revolutions. The bigger the coach, the more gilding it displays, the more profuse its emblazonment, the greater is the demand for it for marriage parties. When the religious ceremony is concluded, these same carriages immediately convey bride, bridegroom, parents, relatives, and friends to one of those monster restaurants of the *faubourgs* or the *barricades*, which are specially famous for their wedding feasts. After the feast the same string of carriages proceeds to the Bois de Boulogne, at the entrance to which the party, with the bride and the bridegroom at their head, alight and walk in procession through the park. A young woman of the humbler ranks of Paris life would not believe that she was really married if this state visit to the Bois was omitted. Marriages in high life, on the other hand, assume the character of a religious and musical fete. Invitations upon beautifully printed paper are issued for the religious ceremony. Ladies and gentlemen respond by appearing in elegant morning dresses, except those favored individuals who are to be placed nearest to the altar, and who are in evening dress. Until lately the musical performances were limited to a few strains from the organ, played upon the entrance and departure of the wedding party, but now the composition of the musical selection has become one of the great questions connected with the religious ceremony of marriage. The church at the same time is handsomely decorated and brilliantly lighted, and with all these elegantly dressed ladies conversing in low tones behind their fans, the gentlemen walking about exchanging smiles and recognition, almost resembles a saloon where some acting charade is being performed, in which a young man dressed in black, and a young woman dressed in white, represent two beings whose fates are to be united. When the ceremony is completed, a few hurried congratulations are offered, and the ladies leave by the great door of the church, where the carriages, summoned by the shouts of the attendant foot-men, await them; while the gentlemen, indulging in most worldly conversation, scrutinize at leisure the toilets and salute the wearers. A foreigner who happened to light upon such a scene might well imagine himself witnessing the dispersion of an audience which had been attending the first representation of a new play.

There are forty granges, with a membership of over 1,000, in Bourbon county, Kan., and their association has already resulted in procuring agricultural implements at half the former prices, and general supplies at an average of 25 per cent. less. They are preparing to build a mill to grind their own grain, and contemplate the incorporation of a company to manufacture their own implements.

THE CAREER OF A GREAT REMEDY. Twenty summers have elapsed since it was first announced that a new vegetable tonic and alterative, bearing the name of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, had been added to the list of preventive and restorative medicines. The modest advertisement which invited attention to the preparation stated that it had been used with great success, in private practice, as a cure for dyspepsia, bilious complaints, constipation and intermittent fevers. It was soon discovered that the article possessed extraordinary properties. The people of every class, tested its merits as a tonic, stimulant, corrective and restorative, and found that its effects more than fulfilled their hopes and expectations. From that time to the present its course has been upward and onward, and it stands today at the head of all medicines of its class, American or imported, in the magnitude of its sales and its reputation as a safe, agreeable and potent invigorant and restorative. For languor and debility, lack of appetite and gastric disturbances, such common during the summer months, it is absolutely infallible. Indigestion, bilious disorders, constipation, nervousness, periodic fevers, and all the ordinary complaints generated by a vitiated and impure blood, find their cures in its refreshing and regulating influence. This is its record, attested by the values of intelligent testimony, extending over a period of a full century, and comprehending the names of thousands of well-known citizens of every class and calling. In Europe it is thought a great thing to obtain the patronage of royalty for a "patent medicine," but Hostetter's Bitters has been spontaneously approved by millions of independent sovereigns, and the highest honors of the medical profession.

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A PHYSICIAN WHO HEALED HIMSELF.—If a railroad director were lashed to every locomotive, there would be fewer railroad accidents, and if doctors had to take their own physic before administering it to their patients, fewer people would be poisoned. Dr. Joseph Walker of California, took this course when he first compounded the famous Vinegar Bitters which now rank as an inestimable household remedy in all parts of the United States. He healed himself with this specific before he offered it to the world. He introduced it with a simple statement of the manner in which he had discovered its vegetable ingredients and been cured, while wandering, sick and poor, among the California tribes. He stated that the preparation had done for himself and a few sufferers from dyspepsia, biliousness, rheumatism, lung diseases, and many other prevalent disorders, believed him, tried the new restorative and were more than satisfied with the results. In this way the sale of the Vinegar Bitters began, and we mention the fact as an evidence that in this age of intelligence and inquiry, nothing that is really valuable to mankind can prove a pecuniary failure, even though it may lack the help of capital, and have to fight its way against powerful opposing interests. Within two or three months after its introduction, the article became self-supporting, and it now yields a magnificent annual revenue.

BELLEVUE, the English reader, at a dinner given him in Ottawa, some weeks since, promised to speak a good word for Canada, when he returned to England, to those intending to emigrate. In a recent speech at Liverpool he counseled his hearers to give Canada the preference over the United States, strongly recommending emigrants to the Dominion.

It is reported that within two weeks \$250,000 worth of real estate in Augusta county, Va., has been sold at 20 per cent. advance on prices six months ago. The purchasers are mostly English.

We see that PROCTER & GAMBLE'S EXTRA OLIVE SOAP is becoming very popular in our city, its quality we know is superior, and being nicely perfumed we are not surprised that consumers prefer it, and that it has a large sale.

CHAPPED HANDS, rough skin, pimples, ringworm, salt-rheum, and other cutaneous affections cured, and the skin made soft and smooth, by using the JENNETT TAR SOAP, made by CASSELL, HAZARD & CO., New York. Be certain to get the *Jennett Tar Soap*, made by us, as there are many imitations made with common tar which are worthless.—*Cons.*

An Irishman called at a drug store to get a bottle of Johnson's Anodyne Linctum for the rheumatism; the druggist asked him in what part of the body it troubled him most. "Be me soul," said he, "I have it in my cock and corner or me."

For loss of end, horn, red water in cows, loss of appetite, red murrain in sheep, thick and frothy milk, and for all obstructions of the kidneys in horses use Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powder.

THOUSANDS attest its virtue, and from all quarters of the globe come testimonials of wonderful cures performed by Shonover's Liver Regulator.

THE CAREER OF A GREAT REMEDY. Twenty summers have elapsed since it was first announced that a new vegetable tonic and alterative, bearing the name of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, had been added to the list of preventive and restorative medicines. The modest advertisement which invited attention to the preparation stated that it had been used with great success, in private practice, as a cure for dyspepsia, bilious complaints, constipation and intermittent fevers. It was soon discovered that the article possessed extraordinary properties. The people of every class, tested its merits as a tonic, stimulant, corrective and restorative, and found that its effects more than fulfilled their hopes and expectations. From that time to the present its course has been upward and onward, and it stands today at the head of all medicines of its class, American or imported, in the magnitude of its sales and its reputation as a safe, agreeable and potent invigorant and restorative. For languor and debility, lack of appetite and gastric disturbances, such common during the summer months, it is absolutely infallible. Indigestion, bilious disorders, constipation, nervousness, periodic fevers, and all the ordinary complaints generated by a vitiated and impure blood, find their cures in its refreshing and regulating influence. This is its record, attested by the values of intelligent testimony, extending over a period of a full century, and comprehending the names of thousands of well-known citizens of every class and calling. In Europe it is thought a great thing to obtain the patronage of royalty for a "patent medicine," but Hostetter's Bitters has been spontaneously approved by millions of independent sovereigns, and the highest honors of the medical profession.

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Some Brands of soap are 14 short weight, five to eight pounds per box. If you use these soaps, you pay money for what you do not receive. Can you afford to do so?
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